TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION 1882 1957

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Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

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Converts Travelers Into Tourists

That car whizzing down the highway is potential money in your pocket, provided you can get him to stop and spend some time in Appomattox. Every penny, dime, quarter, dollar that is spent once by a tourist in one of our stores, restaurants or gas stations will in turn be spent by our local merchants for goods and services and salaries, and eventually affect each of us.

How to stop the traffic rolling past our community? Well, travelers are attracted to a neat, clean community, first of all, as they feel that it is secure and safe to stop in such a town. If the town is spanking bright, chances are, rightly thinks the touring public, the public rest rooms will be well cared for. A clean community is a healthy spot to stop.

A newly painted community demonstrates self and civic pride. A coat of paint is a wonderful "best bib and tucker" for every home, store and office. It's good advertising.

And flowers, trees and shrubs have an irresistable appeal, so flower boxes, borders, gardens, should be profuse ly blooming.

The clean, attractive community is an oasis from the ever-stretching ribbon of road.

During Appomattox's Clean-Up period, we have an opportunity to stop traffic — if we all apply ourselves and Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up, we will be happier ourselves and the jingling coins and crisp dollars in the motorists pockets will benefit us.

* * * * * * * * *

Mordern Civilization Best

Speaking to a university audience, Sir Winston Churchill, former Prime Minister of Great Britain, who has been generally recognized as a student of history and a writer of repute, stated that "despite anxious, critical and even agonizing moments," modern civilization is "undoubtedly a higher form of society than ever prevailed in ancient worlds."

This is a conclusion which many moralists, reformers and do-gooders will dispute. In fact, the stock-in-trade of some human beings seems to involve the necessity of denouncing the present generation, with the implication that, for some strange reason, men and women have suddenly degraded themselves.

We have no sympathy with such a view. It is apparent, we think, from a study of various civilizations, including habits, customs, and morals, that the world today is housing a race of people, on the average, which is more intelligent, more healthy and more spiritual than any other generation of the so-called human race.

* * * * * * * * *

A Fine Promotion

It was a pleasure for Appomattox to play host Tuesday to so many pupils who came here for an on-the-spot history lesson on the 92nd anniversary of the signing of peace ending a costly internecine war. We extend congratulations, and thanks, to all the local persons who contributed to this event. And we are wondering if a similar event might not be made an annual occasion.

However, we have often felt that a "steady stream" of visitors is more desirable than any "one-day stand." So we should be on the alert each and every day to entice visitors to our historic community. And, it must be said that a "one-day stand" which brings lots of favorable publicity, has extended value because the publicity lasts and brings later visits.

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Profit From The Bible

The question, "Do you read the Bible " asked in a crowd, would produce very interesting replies, if the truth were told.

There are some people who think themselves "superior" because they place scant reliance in the book which is still the world's best seller. They fancy an independent aloofness but, in reality, there must be some other explanation for their failure to give the Word of God a trial on its merits. We consider the "Bible-reading habit" just about the best any one of us might cultivate.

* * * * * * * * *

It's human nature to put the blame for everything on somebody else, but a man begins to make progress when he blames his shortcomings on the proper person.

* * * * * * * * *

Your plans for the future should include paying your debts of the past.

* * * * * * * * *

You don't have to know everything to know something, but you do have to know something to know that you don't know everything.

* * * * * * * * *

History repeats itself, as everybody knows. But what some people are wondering is why it has to repeat itself so fast. —St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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Washington Notes

EXPORTS UP

U. S. exports totaled more than $1,500,000,000 in February, according to the Commerce Department, which pointed out that this was about 5 per cent below the January total but 16 per cent higher than the figure for February, 1956.

NO VA SOLICITORS

The Veterans Administration has announced that solicitors selling products from door to door have neither the endorsement nor sanction of the Veterans Administration. No employees of the Administration are permitted to use their connection with it to identify themselves except for official dicties, it has been pointed out.

MORTGAGE AID

Congress has passed and President Eisenhower has signed a bill making half a billion dollars in additional Government loan funds available to relieve the tight market for housing mortgages. The $500,000,000 goes to the Federal National Mortgage Association, known as "Fannie Mae," which buys Government - backed housing mortgages from builders and lenders when private funds are not available.

COST OF LIVING

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported that the Consumer Price Index rose for the sixth consecutive month to a new high of 118.7. The latest monthly increase amounted to .5 of a point.

ARMY PIGEONS

The Army's carrier pigeons are going the way of Army mules—out. The last 1,000 of the birds remaining will be sold, since the Army believes the birds are outmoded by electronic communications. The Army began using the carrier pigeon in 1878 and had a peak of 56,000 in service during World War II.

'57 MEAT OUTPUT

Meat production during 1957 is expected to be from two to three per cent below last year's level by the American Meat Institute. Because of increasing population, this means each consumer will have an average of six to seven pounds less meat this year. Hog markets are running 15 to 17 per cent less than a year ago, while marketings of cattle dressed for beef have been about 4 per cent above the 1956 lvel.

The Red Cross recently reported that its March fund campaign had brought in only 65 per cent of the 1957 goal. It hoped to raise $95,000,000 in the drive and, by the end of March, only $62,553,805 had been reported. Only 121 of the organization's 3,700 chapters reached or exceeded their goals.

TAX CUT

Democratic leaders in Congress are reported to be laying the groundwork for a January 1, 1958 income tax cut, based on anticipated reductions in President Eisenhower's budget. The plan is regarded as a political maneuver aimed at beating the Republicans to economy as a campaign issue.

THE SEAWOLF

The Navy's second nuclear-powered submarine, the Seawolf, has been commissioned. The Seawolf, which is 330 feet long and displaces more than 3,000 tons, is to be part of a proposed fleet of fifteen atomic submarines.

NEW EJECTOR SEAT

A new supersonic aircraft ejector seat — which itself "flies" — is being tested to safeguard the lives of U. S. fighter pilots by the Air Research and Development Command. The new ejection system is actually a parachute - equipped "flying seat" with aerodynamic stability and windblast protection.

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FARM NEWS

By J. A. Smith, County Agent

Tobacco Mosaic Caused Serious Loss in 1956

Mosaic called tobacco mosaic severe losses in some areas Virginia last year — and it will this year if growers don't use precautions.

It often greatly reduces both and quality of the leaf. It is by a highly contagious virus spread by mere contact. be recognized by dark and green areas in the infected

year it was estimated by farmers in Caroline County alone caused four million dollars last year because of the

The greatest loss from mosaic occurs when plants become infested in the plant bed or during transplanting. When this happens, the plants are often stunted and rarely get over half size. If mosaic occurs later in the season on nearly mature plants, the leaves show severe puckering and are very susceptible to sun scald during periods of sunshine. As a result, there may be severe firing.

There are no chemical treatments for controlling mosaic. About the only way to reduce losses is to follow certain recommended sanitation practices in growing and transplanting plants.

Avoid using tobacco scrap on the tobacco plant bed, since all the virus may not be killed during the flue-curing process. Destroy all weeds around the plant bed site. Avoid handling weeds when working on the plant bed. Do not use tobacco products when working with young plants. If you have been smoking or handling tobacco before working in the plant bed, carefully wash your hands with soap and running water.

Careful attention to sanitation is the only way to control the disease satisfactorily in sun-cured, dark fire-cured, and burley tobacco. However, flue-cured growers who have had trouble with mosaic in previous years can try Virginia 45, a variety which is highly resistant to mosaic and root rot and which yields well and produces high quality tobacco.

Get Farm Machinery Ready

Remove dirt and rust to that the machinery can be inspected, repaired, adjusted, and operated more efficiently. A clean machine is a much safer machine.

Check disk harrows for badly worn or broken disks and bearings. Check spike tooth and spring harrows for worn, broken and missing teeth.

Inspect grain drills, corn planters, and fertilizer distributors to see that all parts are turning freely and are not frozen because of corrosion or rust. All feeds should be open and all flexible and telescoping feed tubes in operating shape. Make sure that you have the correct corn plates for planting your seed corn. If you do not have them, order them from your farm machinery dealer now. Don't wait until the last minute and then expect him to always have what you need. If you are planting a different type seed corn this season, you may need different seed plates, and your machinery dealer may not have them in stock. But he can get most any type plate that you would desire, provided he has time to order from the manufacturer.

Check transplanters for worn and broken parts. Cultivators may have worn, broken, bent or missing parts. See that the shovels and sweeps are in good shape and are ready to go.

It will not be long before you will start thinking about using your hay tools. You may need new guards and knife sections. Check the inner and outer shoes on the cutter bar, replace badly worn V-belts and inspect and replace as needed slips and wear plates. Check rake teeth for worn, broken or missing teeth. Make sure that your baler is ready when needed.

When inspecting these machines, be careful to see that safety shields are in place and in good shape All drive chains, belts, and power take-offs should be inspected for wear and breaks as they can be dangerous as well as cause considerable loss of time. All bearings should be carefully checked. Rubber tires should be properly inflated and inspected for breaks and wear.

It is an excellent time, when inspecting these machines, to read over the operator's manual for the different machines and refresh yourself on the service requirements, adjustments and operation. If you do not have an operator's manual, it would be well worth your time to contact the local dealer or write the manufacturer for one.

Don't forget to lubricate your equipment now, as well as check all gear cases to see that they contain oil to the proper levels.

Alfalfa Silage Good for Dairy Calves

Appomattox farmers who have been discussing the pros and cons of feeding alfalfa silage to dairy calves should be interested in a recent test at Pennsylvania State University.

A total of 94 Holstein and Guernsey calves were used in the test. The calves were on trial from 6 days of age through 16 weeks. So long as each calf received a minimum of 3 pounds of grain daily, the free feeding of alfalfa silage promoted normal growth, with just as good gains as did alfalfa hay.

Although one group of calves was permitted to eat hay and silage in addition to the 3 pounds of grain daily, that group did not gain any faster than the group on silage without hay.

Many dairy calves are eating poor quality hay, and this isn't good enough for normal growth. A good hay-crop silage can be used to good advantage.

The Changing Poultry Business

It's getting harder and harder to make a profit in the poultry business.

Broadly speaking, the outlook for poultrymen the rest of this year runs to greater output; continued high level of demand for eggs, broilers and turkeys, and lower prices and steady to higher costs.

Many changes are taking place in the poultry industry. With narrow (or no) margins, size of operation and its effect on costs has become most important. The so-called "integrated" operation, in which breeding, hatching, feed mixing, rearing, processing, and distribution of broilers is carried on under one coordinated management, is offered as one way to meet the pressure of low margins.

One of the big advantages in an integrated set-up is that units are usually larger and other things being equal, more efficient, and costs of production are lower. However, smaller independent units may be able still to produce at a lower cost than one gigantic integrated unit. Another advantage of the integrated operation is the opportunity for planning the business for a more orderly flow of products. And latest mmethods and techniques are likely to be used simply because of a larger operation.

From the individual farmer's standpoint, a larger operation must be undertaken if the same income is to be maintained with the narrower margins. Bigger units call for a larger capital investment and more skill in management. There are still many small growers in Virginia who will not be able to change their size of operation very readily. In fact, most of the poultrymen in the state are not full-scale commercial producers. On many farms poultry is not the main source of income. How well it fits into the farming operation will determine how much of the expansion is possible or practical. The day is gone, however, when a man can take 400 or 500 hens or a few thousand broilers and expect to make a reasonable living. We probably need to think in terms of at least 2,500 to 3,500 laying hens and 30,000 to 40,000 broilers now.

Possibilities in the commercial production of table eggs in Virginia have become of considerable interest in recent months. Feed dealers now have in operation or in planning state a number of arrangements for supplying the capital needed. Two general arrangements have been developed. One makes available to the producer on an "ordinary business basis" the necessary funds to buy chicks, feed, medicine, and other supplies for raising the pullets and caring for the layers. Repayment is made over a period of months after the flock comes into production.

Another plan bases payments to egg producers on a guaranteed price per dozen eggs produced. Variations in the rate of payment are made because of varying rates of production, quality of eggs sold, market price of eggs, season of the year, feed used per dozen eggs produced and the cost of the feed.

Do not overlook the nature of competition to be e xpected from other well-established areas.

Over the long pull, the poultry business looks good. People are becoming increasingly aware of the value of eggs and poultry meats in the diet.

WAS HE SURPRISED?

Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.- A. L. Wycoff, of Spokane, Wash., trying to find his bearings in the city at 2 A. M., rounded a corner of a building, drove up a slight grade, and suddenly saw the nose of his car drop several feet with a spine-jarring crash. He'l driven up the loading ramp of a building supply company. His car landed with its front wheels on the ground, its rear wheels still on the loading ramp. A wrecker helped Wycoff get his car back to earth.

COMMENT ON SPORTS

By Pete Frichie

St. Petersburg, Fla.- The question sports writers all over the baseball world are trying to answer right now is: What teams are the dark horses in the two pennant races beginning the middle of the month

The writer has his opinions after watching a few of the major league teams in action in Florida, though, unfortunately, he has not seen the four teams training out west this year.

Here is the way the two pennant races will turn out this season, according to our crystal ball, which we make available to readers before the season begins every year—for better or worse.

In the National League, the fight is thought to be one between the Reds, Dodgers and Braves. The dark horse team, in our opinion, is the Cardinals. If the Redbirds can learn to defeat the Bums, and do it pretty well this year, they will probably win the pennant.

Milwaukee may miss again, and after flubbing the chance last year can't be rated over Brooklyn. The Redlegs may do it, but we can't see them beating out all three of the contenders unless unusual misfortune settles on one or two of the other contenders.

In the American League, the Yankees must be favorites. The dark horse choice here is Detroit—even though the Tigers didn't start off spring play like Tigers. Should the Bengals come up with a trade that helps, they will be plenty tough. They have great young pitchers and good hitting.

The new manager, Jack Tighe, won't be satisfied to finish fifth. He wants to go all the way. The other clubs will have to help the Tigers beat the Yankees if Detroit does it. Boston ,Cleveland and Chicago will have to join the party. Last year, only the Tigers held an edge over the world champions.

Boston may be hotter but in 1956 they were cooler than in 1955. Cleveland and Chicago have new managers and are question marks. Right now, then, we'd say the best guesses for first division orders in both leagues, as of October 1, would be:

American League: New York, Detroit, Chicago and Cleveland.

National League: Brooklyn, St. Louis, Milwaukee and Cincinnati.

Dark horse bets: Detroit and St. Louis.

An English Joke

"Yes, I've hunted all over Europe."

"Really. What had you lost?"

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